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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 018793-262

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of |) | MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE |
| |) | |
| Wataru YAMASHITA et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 1711 |
| |) | |
| Application No.: 10/088,481 |) | Examiner: P. Hampton Hightower |
| |) | |
| Filed: March 20, 2002 |) | Confirmation No.: 7147 |
| |) | |
| For: POLYAMIC ACID, POLYIMIDE, |) | |
| PROCESS FOR PREPARING THEM, |) | |
| AND POLYIMIDE FILM FORMED |) | |
| FROM THEM |) | |

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the reasons for allowance which accompanied the Notice of Allowance dated October 7, 2003, the Examiner set forth a single lengthy sentence which includes a reference to polyamic acid, polyimide, methods and characteristics.

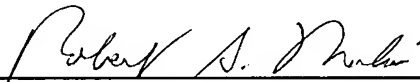
To ensure a proper understanding of the various aspects of the claimed invention, applicants initially note that there are eight independent claims, each of which has one or more claims depending therefrom. Applicants respectfully state that the claims define the subject matter of the invention and that each claim must be considered on its own merits. Accordingly, the polyamic acid and the polyimide defined in the claims are to be considered independent of the process by which they may be prepared. Similarly, the polyamic acid, the polyimide and the materials made therefrom are defined by the claims which do not include the characteristics set forth in the reasons for allowance. Therefore,

while the claimed polyamic acid, polyimide and the materials made therefrom can advantageously exhibit one or more of the identified characteristics, they do not require them.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the present application, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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